

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY REPRESENTATIVE HUFFMAN TO  
THE AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE TO H.R. 6008

At the end of the bill, insert:

**SECTION 3. CONSERVATION MEASURES.**

- a) **FUNDING FOR SCIENCE AND CONSERVATION.**—The Secretary of the Interior shall require each holder of:
- 1) a lease that is issued or maintained under the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act [43 U.S.C. 1331 et seq.] and affected by Section 2 of this Act;
  - 2) an exploration permit, or an easement or right-of-way for the construction of a pipeline in any area of the Outer Continental Shelf and that is affected by Section 2 of this Act;
- to pay an annual marine life conservation fee at an amount specified by the Secretary of the Interior.
- b) **PURPOSES.**—Funds collected pursuant to subsection (a) shall be available, to the extent provided in advance in appropriations Acts, until expended to support the research, conservation, recovery, and management of—
- (1) federally protected marine resources;
  - (2) marine mammals protected under the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972 (16 U.S.C. 1361 et seq.) and their habitats; and
  - (3) the habitats on which these species depend.
- c) **BEST AVAILABLE TECHNOLOGY.**—The Secretary of the Interior shall ensure that any activities in the Gulf of Mexico for oil and gas preleasing, leasing, and related activities, including geological and geophysical exploration, that are affected by Section 2 utilize the best-available technology for reducing underwater noise.
- d) **RICE’S WHALE RECOVERY PLAN.**—The Assistant Administrator shall, within 1 year of the enactment of this Act, finalize a recovery plan for the Rice’s whale.